



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

FIRE DEPARTMENT

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(323) 881-2401

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN
FIRE CHIEF
FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

September 9, 2005

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: P. MICHAEL FREEMAN

UPDATE ON COUNTY RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA

The purpose of this memo is to keep you updated on a number of County response efforts currently underway in Louisiana.

The County's Advance Team is beginning its work with local, state and federal officials present in New Orleans to ensure continuity of city government operations. The team is quickly identifying what additional help will be needed for the next several weeks and months to come.

Our 14-member Swiftwater Rescue Team has been operating in the New Orleans area near Metairie, Louisiana, and will continue to work with seven other California teams. They are focusing on rescuing stranded residents and providing EMS services as needed. As of this morning's briefing with the team members, they are expected to continue to operate until September 13, 2005, until they are demobilized and return to Los Angeles.

Our 80-member Urban Search and Rescue Team is now assigned to their base of operations in Metairie and are assisting with search and rescue needs in the New Orleans area. They began operation yesterday and their duration of service is undetermined at this time. At minimum, it is expected to last until next week. All personnel are well and in good spirits and remain committed to helping local residents secure their personal safety. To help provide support for responder family members, a unit is working locally to stay in contact with them to ensure good communication, peace of mind and meet local family needs. In addition, our medical director remains with the Task Force, along with volunteer physicians and others on site to attend to any medical needs.

SERVING THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND THE CITIES OF:

AGOURA HILLS	BRADBURY	CUDAHY	HAWTHORNE	LA HABRA	LYNWOOD	PICO RIVERA	SIGNAL HILL
ARTESIA	CALABASAS	DIAMOND BAR	HIDDEN HILLS	LA MIRADA	MALIBU	POMONA	SOUTH EL MONTE
AZUSA	CARSON	DUARTE	HUNTINGTON PARK	LA PUENTE	MAYWOOD	RANCHO PALOS VERDES	SOUTH GATE
BALDWIN PARK	CERRITOS	EL MONTE	INDUSTRY	LAKEWOOD	NORWALK	ROLLING HILLS	TEMPLE CITY
BELL	CLAREMONT	GARDENA	INGLEWOOD	LANCASTER	PALMDALE	ROLLING HILLS ESTATES	WALNUT
BELL GARDENS	COMMERCE	GLEN DORA	IRVINDALE	LAWNDALE	PALOS VERDES ESTATES	ROSEMEAD	WEST HOLLYWOOD
BELLFLOWER	COVINA	HAWAIIAN GARDENS	LA CANADA-FLINTRIDGE	LOMITA	PARAMOUNT	SAN DIMAS	WESTLAKE VILLAGE
						SANTA CLARITA	WHITTIER

Each Supervisor
September 9, 2005
Page Two

FEMA is continuing to provide regional support, while it prepares for Hurricane Ophelia heading toward the Florida coastline.

I will continue to keep you apprised of all developments. If you have any questions, please contact me at (323) 881-2401.

PMF:kh

c: David E. Janssen, Chief Administrative Officer
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